

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1 - 38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) A method of producing coated complex particles having an average particle diameter of 200 nm or less, comprising the steps of:

~~dispersing or dissolving one or more substance(s) selected from plasmids and siRNA and an anionic polymer in a liquid with lead particles having an average particle diameter of 50 to 150 nm, wherein the lead particles comprise a lipid assembly, a liposome, an emulsion particle or a polymeric micelle, containing~~

(i) one or more substance(s) selected from polyethylene glycolated lipids, polyethylene glycol sorbitan fatty acid esters, polyethylene glycol fatty acid esters, polyglycerolated lipids, polyglycerol fatty acid esters, polyoxyethylene polypropylene glycol, glycerol fatty acid esters and polyethylene glycol alkyl ethers, and

(ii) a cationic substance;

~~dispersing or dissolving plasmids in the liquid with the lead particles, whereby complex particles wherein the substance(s) selected from plasmids and siRNA and the anionic polymer adhere to the lead particles to obtain complex particles are obtained;~~

preparing a liquid (liquid A) containing a polar organic solvent in which obtained complex particles are dispersed and a lipid membrane component is dissolved; and

coating the complex particles with a lipid membrane composed of the lipid membrane component by reducing the ratio of the polar organic solvent in the liquid A;

~~which is characterized in dispersing or dissolving an anionic polymer in the liquid with the lead particles when the plasmids disperse or dissolve in the liquid with the lead particles, whereby the complex particles wherein the plasmids and the anionic polymer adhere to the lead particles are obtained,~~

~~wherein the ratio of the lead particles : the total amount of the plasmids and the anionic polymer is 2:1 to 200 : 1 by weight.~~

40. (Previously Presented) The method of producing coated complex particles according to claim 39, wherein the step of preparing the liquid A comprises the steps of:

preparing a liquid (liquid B) containing a polar organic solvent in which the complex particles are dispersed;

preparing a liquid (liquid C) obtained by dissolving the lipid membrane component in a solvent containing a polar organic solvent which is the same as or different from that in the liquid B; and

mixing the liquid B and the liquid C.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) The method of producing coated complex particles according to claim 39 or 40, wherein the lipid membrane is a lipid membrane containing a water-soluble polymer derivative.

43 - 47. (Cancelled)

48. (Previously Presented) The method of producing coated complex particles according to claim 39 or 40, wherein the anionic polymer is one of more substance(s) selected from dextran sulfate, sodium dextran sulfate, chondroitin sulfate, sodium chondroitin sulfate, hyaluronic acid, chondroitin, dermatan sulfate, heparin sulfate, heparin, ketaran sulfate and dextran fluorescein anionic.

49-50. (Cancelled)